

Whitehall

URBAN DISTRICT OF PENARTH



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1938

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PENARTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman—

Councillor F. R. CRATCHLEY.

Vice-Chairman—

Councillor W. A. PRICHARD, M.C.

Members—

Coun. J. W. JONES.

„ G. A. MOON.

„ H. J. COOK, J.P.

„ G. BARRETT.

„ A. C. DAVIES.

Coun. W. JONES.

„ G. HALLETT.

„ A. C. J. WHITE.

„ W. R. JEFFCOTT.

„ LT.-COL. J. H. R.

DOWNES-POWELL, J.P.

Clerk to the Council—

THOS. JOHN, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—

Councillor Lt.-Col. J. H. R. DOWNES-POWELL, J.P.

Members—

All the Members of the Urban District Council.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL,

with Co-opted Members :

Mrs. JOHN GIBBS.

Mrs. W. S. ANGOVE.

Mrs. MAILLARD.

Mrs. J. THOMAS.

Miss L. M. S. REAVLEY.

Mrs. WILSON.

Institute—

“CATHERINE JENKINS,” BEECROFT, PENARTH.

Caretakers—

MR. and MRS. FRANCIS COBB.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health—

Medical Officer to Isolation Hospital and Medical Officer to Child Welfare—

CHARLES A. JONES, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.).
(Part-time Officer).

Chief Sanitary Inspector—

A. H. MOUNTAIN, A.R.SAN.I., S.R.I.B.A.,
Cert. Meat Insp. Royal San. Inst.

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

J. G. C. SHORT, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Cert. Meat Insp. Royal San. Inst.

For Portion of Year—

A. H. WILLIAMS, M.R.SAN.I., Cert. S.I.B.,
Cert. Meat Insp. Royal San. Inst.

Health Visitor—

Miss ALICE DAVIES, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Isolation Hospital, Llandough.

Matron—

Mrs. HILDA GWYNN.

PENARTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS of the
PENARTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my ANNUAL REPORT for 1938, on the Public Health of Penarth, and the general Sanitary conditions of the district. The report is drawn up on the lines indicated in the memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health.

There are two forms of immunisation which are not practised to the extent that I would like, and they are vaccination against small-pox and immunisation against diphtheria. The possible explanation that vaccination is not practised as commonly as in the past, is that small-pox is a disease that is rarely found to-day in this country to the extent that it is found in many parts of the world, and were it not for the vigilance of the Port Health Authorities it is likely that we would have it in epidemic form.

The rapidity with which aircraft move from one part of the world to another is a development which must not be lost sight of, and if vaccination is not practised more thoroughly there is a likelihood of an epidemic of small-pox arising at any time.

Diphtheria is a prevalent complaint, and last year 84 cases were notified in our area. There have been only a few applications for immunisation against this disease, and I feel that the people should take greater advantage of the facilities offered.

There were 52 cases of Scarlet Fever of a mild type during the year, but Scarlet Fever to-day is a mild disease as compared with 30 years ago, and the complications are consequently fewer. It will be seen from a perusal of the table of notifiable diseases that there were 140 cases of Pneumonia, but it should be pointed out that 136 of these were notified from Llandough Hospital, which admits cases from Cardiff and other areas.

Three cases of puerperal fever occurred during the year. There were 6 cases of Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) but all these were notified from Llandough Hospital, and it will be remembered that an epidemic was reported in quite a number of parts of the country but no cases occurred at Penarth.

The Registrar-General's mid-year estimate of the population revealed that the population of the town has shown a further decline from 16,420 to 16,080, and as I have mentioned in previous

reports, this is largely due to the emigration of young people from the area owing to the lack of industries. Since the opening of the Air Force Training Camp at St. Athans a number of persons employed there have come to live at Penarth, and judging by the diminution of the number of unoccupied houses I feel the downward trend has been replaced recently by an upward direction of the population curve.

The Infantile Mortality rate was in 1937 the highest for many years, but it is gratifying to observe that the figure has been reduced to 54 per 1,000 live births registered.

The death rate has diminished from 12.7 to 11.8 per 1,000 of the estimated population despite the fact that the age distribution of the population has resulted in a greater preponderance of old people.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Fever during the year, a factor which might have a bearing on this is that the County Council have a whole-time salaried midwifery service.

The water supply is regularly examined and on the whole is satisfactory.

From frequent examination of milk supplies the standard of cleanliness is not all that could be desired, but by the exercise of vigilance an improvement has been brought about.

The amount of money expended on the distribution of free milk was £472 1s. 8d., which is an increase over the amount spent in 1937, but I think the extension of the provision of free milk is of great benefit to expectant and nursing mothers as well as to newly born infants.

Quite a number of working class families are obliged to rent houses at rentals which are beyond their means, and the only way they are able to meet their commitments is by sub-letting. The majority of these houses are not suitable for sub-letting owing to inadequacy of sanitary accommodation and other conveniences, and the lack of privacy which this causes tends to bring about a regrettable decline in the social and moral standards of home life.

In conclusion I desire to thank the Members of the Council for their continued confidence and support, and my colleagues for their loyal co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

CHAS. A. JONES.
Medical Officer of Health.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The Urban District of Penarth comprises the parishes of Penarth, Cogan and Llandough, the latter parish having rural characteristics.

The geological structure of the District is made up as follows :

Red and Grey Marls	....	....	1,024 acres.
Lower Lias	....	....	807 „
Estuarine Mud	....	....	250 „
Rhætic	....	....	122 „
Foreshore	....	....	305 „
			<hr/>
			2,508 „

The elevation above sea level is 200 feet in the northern portion of the area, with a gentle slope to 40 feet at its southern boundary.

The eastern and a portion of the northern boundaries are washed by the waters of the Bristol Channel, which pursues its course towards the southern boundary, therefore any winds between a north-easterly and south-westerly point come across the channel.

The district is exceptionally well wooded, its streets being for the most part avenues of trees, which in the summer afford a welcome shade.

It is well provided with modern public swimming baths, recreation grounds, parks, and open spaces, and possesses to the fullest extent all the conveniences and comforts so desirable in both a residential locality and a summer seaside resort, combining all the advantages of a modern well equipped town with the charm of country life and the healthy breezes of the seaside.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres), including 305 acres of foreshore....	....	2,508
Population (Census 1931) ....	....	17,710
„ (Resident) estimated by Ministry, 1938 ....	....	16,080
Number of Inhabited Houses (1938) according to rate books ....	....	4,167
Rateable Value (1938) ....	....	£128,389
Sum represented by 1d. Rate ....	....	£475

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The District is divided into four Wards, viz., North, Central, West, and South Wards. The South Ward may be termed the residential portion of the district, the majority of the male population being merchants, shipowners, and professional men. The Central Ward is the trading centre of the district, whilst the population of the North and West Wards is mainly of the working classes, who are employed in ship repairing, pontoon, railways, and at the brick, concrete and cement works, the latter being situated outside the district to the south of the town.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	Legitimate	192	94	98	Birth rate per 1000 of estimated resident population
	Illegitimate	10	6	4	
Still Births	Legitimate	8	7	1	Rate per 1000. Total (live and still births)
	Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Deaths	....	189	86	103	Death rate per 1000 of the estimated re- sident population
					11.8

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
Other Puerperal Causes	0	0
Total	0	0

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	....	....	54
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live births	....	....	49
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live births	....	....	4
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	....	....	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	....	....	0
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	....	....	0

Table I. shows the death rates for the past ten years in England and Wales, Glamorgan and Penarth.

TABLE I.

BIRTHS.						DEATHS.			
Year	Esti- mated Popu- lation	No.	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population			Under 1 Year		At all ages.	
			Penarth	England and Wales	Glamor- gan	No.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Births Registered	No.	Rate
1928	18840	294	15.6	16.7	18.2	19	65	181	9.6
1929	18490	268	14.5	16.3	17.1	15	56	179	9.7
1930	18490	246	13.3	15.8	15.8	10	41	181	9.8
1931	17550	211	12.0	15.8	16.8	15	71	190	10.8
1932	17700	243	13.7	15.3	16.4	7	29	172	9.7
1933	17480	194	11.1	14.4	16.0	9	46	199	11.3
1934	17360	229	13.1	14.8	16.5	11	48	210	12.0
1935	17110	208	12.1	14.7	16.0	11	53	218	12.7
1936	16830	207	12.2	14.8	15.4	11	53	181	10.7
1937	16420	200	12.2	14.9	15.3	16	80	209	12.7
Av. for 10 Years		230	12.9	15.3	16.3	12.4	54	192	10.9
1938	16080	202	12.6	15.1	15.4	11	54	189	11.8

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the statistics in Tables I and II which show Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates in England and Wales, Glamorgan and the Urban Districts of Glamorgan.

TABLE II.

District	Total No. of Births	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1000 Births
England and Wales	—	—	53
Administrative County of Glam'n	10921	656	60
Urban Districts—			
Aberdare	582	30	51
Barry	551	17	31
Bridgend	156	7	45
Caerphilly	557	37	66
Cowbridge	14	1	71
Gelligaer	685	38	55
Glyncorrwg	179	12	67
Llwchwr	386	22	57
Maesteg	411	36	88
Mountain Ash	568	26	46
Neath Borough	468	28	60
Ogmore and Garw	405	20	49
Penarth	202	11	54
Pontypridd	551	48	87
Porthcawl	78	3	38
Port Talbot Borough	708	54	76
Rhondda	1732	121	70
Total for Urban Districts	8233	511	1011

TABLE III.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1938.

Cause of Death.				Male.	Female.
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	....	....	....	....
2.	Measles	....	....	....	....
3.	Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	....
4.	Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....
5.	Diphtheria	....	....	1	1
6.	Influenza	....	....	1	....
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	....	....	....	....
8.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	....	....	....	....
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	....	....	10	10
10.	Other Tuberculosis Diseases	....	....	....	1
11.	Syphilis	....	....	....	....
12.	General Paralysis of the insane	Tabes dorsalis	....	....	....
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	....	....	7	18
14.	Diabetes	....	....	4	1
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	....	....	2	8
16.	Heart Disease	....	....	22	19
17.	Aneurysm	....	....	2	1
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	....	....	9	7
19.	Bronchitis	....	....	2	3
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	....	....	6	1
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	....	....	....	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer	....	....	2	....
23.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	....	....	....	....
24.	Diarrhœa, etc. (2 years and over)	....	....	....	....
25.	Appendicitis	....	....	1	....
26.	Cirrhosis of Liver	....	....	....	....
27.	Other Diseases of Liver	....	....	....	2
28.	Other Digestive Diseases	....	....	1	....
29.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	....	....	....	5
30.	Puerperal Sepsis	....	....	....	....
31.	Other Puerperal Causes	....	....	....	....
32.	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth, etc.	....	....	3	4
33.	Senility	....	....	5	9
34.	Suicide	....	....	....	3
35.	Other Deaths from Violence	....	....	5	1
36.	Other Defined Diseases	....	....	3	8
37.	Ill Defined or Unknown Causes	....	....	....	....
All Causes				86	103

Professional Nursing in the Home.—No provision is made for nursing cases of infectious disease in the home, but a Queen's Jubilee Nurse resides in the district, who visits and nurses the sick poor in their homes.

Laboratory Facilities.—The following Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations were made at the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for the year :—

Urine (Tuberculosis)	1
Sputum (Tuberculosis)	11
Swabs (Diphtheria)	408
Water (Bacteriological Ex.)	8
Water (Chemical Ex.)	8
Milk (Ordinary)	43
Milk (Designated)	74
Fæces Dysentery	8
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Fæces Organisms	1
Water (Bacteriological Ex.) (Swimming Baths)	6
Water (Chemical Ex.) (Swimming Baths)	6
Sea Water	6

A.—Hospitals provided by the Local Authority.

FEVER.—Situate at Llandough, and consisting of

An Administrative Block,

An Observation Block, 8 beds.

Two Wards with accommodation for 16 patients.

Large Army Hut fitted up with Bath and Sanitary Conveniences.

35 Scarlet Fever and 65 Diphtheria were treated during the year.

It is quite sufficient for all the requirements of the district.

SMALL POX.—Arrangements have been made with the Cardiff City Authorities for the removal and treatment of any cases of Small Pox which may occur in the district.

B.—There are no Hospitals in the district for the treatment of Tuberculosis, Maternity, Children, etc., but advantage is taken of the proximity of the City of Cardiff, which is well provided with large up-to-date Hospitals.

A large modern General Hospital situated at Llandough is within this district. It is provided by the Cardiff City Council for the treatment of acute Surgical and Medical cases, and contains 340 beds.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (a) A Motor Ambulance Service is maintained by the Local Authority for the conveyance of infectious disease cases.
- (b) Motor Ambulance, the property of the Red Cross Society, is available for accidents and non-infectious cases.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres are established at the Catherine Jenkins Infant Welfare Institute (" Beecroft "), Stanwell Road, the Methodist Chapel, Cogan, and the Albert Road Wesleyan Schoolroom.

Consultations take place twice weekly at " Beecroft " (Mondays and Thursdays from 3.0), Albert Road Wesleyan School (Tuesdays from 3.0), and at Cogan (Fridays from 3 o'clock).

Ante-Natal Consultations are held on the second and last Wednesday in each month at " Beecroft " from 10.0 a.m.

A Birth Control and a Gynæcological Clinic is held at ' Beecroft,' Stanwell Road, on the first and third Wednesdays in each month at 11 a.m., under the supervision of Dr. Sybil Morgan.

Midwives.—There are three midwives practising in the district under the jurisdiction of the Glamorgan County Council.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Under the arrangements made with the Glamorgan Education Authority for the services of a lady Dental Surgeon to give dental treatment to expectant mothers, and children under school age. The following work was done during the year at " Beecroft " :—

	Mothers Children Total		
No. treated	34	1	35
No. of attendances	121	2	123
No. of Extractions	128	1	129
No. of Fillings	12	—	12
No. of Scalings and Dressings	13	—	13
No. of Dentures	22	—	22

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

In all notified cases of Puerperal Fever a copy of the certificate is immediately forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health who arranges for all investigations to be made.

HEALTH VISITING.

The Health Visitor (Miss Davies) visits the homes of all babies systematically. For the first twelve months they are visited on an average of five times. From 2 to 4 years of age they are visited three times. From 4 to 5 years they are seen twice.

The Health Visitor also attends the Clinics, and I think these arrangements are adequate.

CHILDREN'S ACT, 1908.

The duties required by the Act are carried out by your Health Visitor.

There were no applications for the adoption of children during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.—The district is within the area of supply of the City of Cardiff. It is an upland surface water from the Brecknock Beacons, and the service is constant.

By arrangement with the County Council, samples are taken to the County Laboratory for Chemical and Bacteriological examination.

Three routine samples were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination.

REPORTS ON THE EXAMINATIONS OF WATER SAMPLES, 1938.

CHEMICAL.

	23/2/38	11/7/38	13/10/38
Total Hardness	3.0	3.6	3.2
Chlorine	.9	1.1	1.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates	Nil	Nil	Nil
Saline (or "Free")			
Ammonia	.0010	.0012	.0008
Organic (or "Albuminoid") Ammonia	.0020	.0040	.0020
Poisonous Metals	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrates	Nil	Nil	Nil
Phosphates	Nil	Nil	Nil
Microscopic Examination of the sediment	Practically Nil. Animate forms rare.	Pract : Nil Animate forms rare	Trace only oxide of iron, diatoms ani- mate forms rare.

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

	23/2/38	11/7/38	13/10/38
Bacteria developing per m.l. at 20°C.	Nil	Nil	Nil
Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C.	130	4	6
B.Coli present in	50 m.l.	Nil	50 m.l.
B.Coli absent from	10 m.l. or smaller amounts	50 m.l.	10 m.l. or smaller amounts
REMARKS	Fairly Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Fairly Satisfactory

Drainage and Sewerage.—The sewerage system is the combined water carriage system, with four different outfalls into the Channel and tidal estuary.

There are about thirty-six houses on the outskirts of the district which can only be drained into cesspools.

Closet Accommodation.—All the houses in the town are fitted with closets on the water-carriage system, except ten cottages on the outlying part of the district, which have earth or pail closets. A number of the cottages are fitted with the long hopper type of pan, and have to be hand-flushed. Notices were served and flushing tanks were fixed in respect of 182 Working Class Houses. All the new houses are fitted with the wash-down type of pan and with a proper flushing tank.

Scavenging.—The house refuse is collected systematically from most of the houses. From Cogan district, and houses without back lanes, the refuse is collected four times per week, but at Llandough and other houses of the semi-detached type, twice weekly. Trade refuse is removed daily from the business area. The whole of the scavenging is carried out by the Council's own

workmen, and conveyed in properly constructed scavenging carts to the refuse tips at Cwrt-y-vil Quarry and the billy banks. The tipping is under constant supervision and each day's refuse is covered over with 9 inches of soil.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The Sanitary Inspector reports that the following inspections were made during the year :—

Record of Inspections.

(Inspection of District Regulations)....	....	509
„ under Public Health Acts	....	523
„ investigating Complaints	....	472
„ Cowsheds, Milkshops and Dairies	....	158
„ to Factories	....	97
„ re Infectious Diseases and Disinfecting	....	173
„ Meat Regulations	....	37
„ Fried Fish Shops	....	12
„ Ice Cream Shops	....	45
„ Stables	....	8
„ Rat Destruction	....	48
„ Miscellaneous	....	96
„ Slaughter Houses (Daily)	....	—
		<hr/> 2178 <hr/>

from which the following defects were recorded :—

Defective Drains	....	12
Choked Drains	....	58
Defective Roofs, Shutting and Downpipes	....	132
„ Yard Paving	....	111
„ Walls and Ceilings	....	138
„ Firegrates and Washing Boilers	....	82
„ Floors	....	123
„ Closet Pans	....	45
Repairs wanted to Closets	....	53
New Sinks and Drains	....	63
Repairs wanted to Doors, Windows, Stairs, etc.	....	258
Closet Accommodation	....	76
Miscellaneous	....	182
Want of Water Supply	....	1

DRAIN TESTING.

The drains of 12 houses were tested ; 3 were found to be defective and notices were served to remedy the defects.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

The number of Notices served during the year, and the result of the service of such Notices, was as follows :—

		Complied with	In hand or having attention
Housing Acts	367	163	69
Public Health Acts	287	146	34
Total	654	309	103

Statutory Notices.

		Complied with	In hand or having attention
Housing Acts	135	93	42
Public Health Acts	107	77	30
Total	242	170	72

SHOPS ACTS, 1912-36.

There are 359 Shops on the Register, and for the purposes of ascertaining that the provisions of the Acts are being carried out regular supervision is maintained throughout the year.

All cases where contraventions of the Acts were found, attention was drawn to the occupier as to the nature of the offence which was generally of a minor character.

Special attention was paid to the employment of young persons under the Bye-Laws of the Glamorgan County Council, especially those employed as errand boys and newspaper boys.

Legal proceedings were instituted in the following cases for contravention of the Grocers and Provision Merchants order made under the above Act.

SHOPS ACTS, 1912-36.

LOCAL GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANTS CLOSING ORDER.

Occupier	Premises	Nature of Offence	Result of Proceedings
D. Bryant 	2, Cornerswell Road, Penarth	Serving a customer on weekly half-holiday.	Case dismissed
A. Hill 	21, Andrew Rd., Cogan	Do. do.	Defendant fined £1 5s.

EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1933.

Legal proceedings were taken in the following case for contravention of Bye-law No. 3 made by the Glamorgan County Council under the above Act.

Occupier	Premises	Nature of Offence	Result of Proceedings
Mrs. E. Fursland 	52, Plassey Street	Employing boy under the age of 12 years.	Defendant fined 5/-

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There was no complaint during the year of any nuisance from smoke.

SWIMMING BATHS.

Situate on the promenade, are the Council's covered salt water baths, containing two swimming baths, 1st and 2nd class, with a capacity of 82,000 and 48,000 gallons, respectively. There are also Slipper, Brine, Zotofoam, Pine-needle, Na-ki-dal and fresh water baths. The swimming baths are constructed of white glazed tiles with a 5ft. 0ins. "Terrazzo" surround with hygienic dressing cubicles, pre-cleansing chamber, and sanitary accommodation.

A modern filtration plant is provided incorporating two pressure filters, aerator and chlorination, thereby carrying out complete sterilization within 4 hours. A coal fired Lancashire boiler generates steam for 3 calorifiers, one for brine, one fresh, and one other for the swimming baths, the latter one keeping the temperature of the water at 74° Fah. throughout the season.

PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS.

Slaughterhouses.

There are two private slaughterhouses in the district which are controlled by Bye-laws made by this Council during 1930.

Seamen's Lodging Houses.

There are no licensed Seamen's Lodging Houses in the district. This is probably due to the closure of the Penarth Docks.

SCHOOLS.

Situate in the District are the following Schools :—

- Penarth Intermediate.
- Victoria Council School.
- Albert Road Council School.
- Cogan Council School.
- Penarth R.C. (St. Joseph's).
- Penarth Church of England.
- Llandough Church of England.

The whole of the Schools are provided with a constant supply of pure water, good drainage and sanitary fittings, urinals, etc., which are flushed with automatic flushing tanks.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911-1928.

There are three premises in the district in which rag flock is used chiefly in the making and repairing of upholstery.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1.—Housing Schemes of the Council.

(a) Number of houses completed and occupied during the year 1938	Nil
(b) Number of houses partly completed during the year 1938	Nil
(c) Number of houses sanctioned but not commenced	Nil
(d) Total number of houses completed and occupied since the war	85 & 22

2.—By Private Enterprises, Building Societies, Etc.

Flats

(a) Number of houses completed and occupied during the year 1938	10
(b) Number of houses partly completed during the year 1938	7
(c) Number of houses for which plans were passed but not commenced during the year 1938	3

3.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1121
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1634
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses* (included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	516
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	714
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	419

4.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or other Officers	163
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5.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	117
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(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) By Owners	93
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	1
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	107
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By Owners	77
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	0
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	4
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

OVERCROWDING.

Since the result of the Overcrowding Survey reported in my last Annual Report a further survey of the district for this purpose has not been undertaken, but any new cases of overcrowding which have been discovered during the inspection of the district have been dealt with. Overcrowding in this area is mainly confined to sub-tenants, and as the Council have not provided any houses to relieve this state of affairs, overcrowding amongst sub-tenants still persists.

Owing to the changes of tenants and sub-tenants over which we have no control (there being no legal obligation upon owners or tenants to notify the Local Authority of changes of tenancy) it is increasingly difficult to cope with the keeping of records as to these removals.

I should like to suggest to the members of the Council that when applications for tenancies of council houses are being dealt with, consideration should be given to the claims of overcrowded families.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Owing to the infestation of bed bugs, the Council has found it necessary to make provision for the disinfection at the minimum charge of £1 1 0, per house. The eradication of the bug is brought about after the removal of all infested woodwork, with the aid of specially prepared solutions and a spray pump.

1.—Number of Council Houses infested	0
Number of Council Houses disinfested	0
2.—Number of other Houses infested	18
Number of other Houses disinfested	18

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES. MILK.

Milk Supply. There are 42 retailers of milk registered in the district. They are frequently inspected, and all are required to provide proper dairy facilities for cleansing all utensils, etc.

The following persons are engaged in the production, sale or distribution of milk within the district :—

Producers	6
Producers—Retailers	4
Retailers of Milk and Milk Shop Keepers	22
Non-resident Retailers	10

Close supervision is maintained by the Inspectors on dairies, cowsheds and on the persons engaged in the milk trade.

Sale of Milk under Special Designations.

3 Establishments are licensed for bottling and selling T.T. Milk.

3 Establishments are licensed to sell T.T. Milk.

3 Establishments are licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk.

117 samples were taken to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for Bacteriological Examination.

Farms. There are 10 farms situate in the district. Seven farm cow sheds are fitted with modern drinking bowls for each cow from a constant water supply.

The floors and stalls have been remodelled at each of 3 farms, and 2 farms have been provided with new dairies.

Arrangements are being made for water supply from the public service to be installed at 3 farms. Therefore all the farms in the district will be supplied with water from the Town's mains.

Meat, etc. All the shops and vehicles to which Meat Regulations apply were frequently inspected, including 20 retail butchers' shops, which are kept in good condition.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION. MEAT.

P.H. (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

The inspection under the above Regulations of the meat of animals killed in the district is complete. This however comprises only a very small proportion of the total quantity consumed and much is brought in from surrounding districts. On several occasions such meat has been found to be exposed for sale in an unfit state, necessitating seizure.

There are two private slaughter houses in the Town, both of which are licensed. The following list indicates the number of animals killed and the diseases found. The principal disease of cattle and pigs requiring condemnation is tuberculosis. In cattle the proportion of animals affected being as high as 14.6%.

The following is a list of animals slaughtered:—

No.	Bulls 0	Steers 15	Cows 5	Heifers 36	Calves 57	All Cattle 113	Sheep 1484	Pigs 388
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Instances in which Tuberculosis was found:—

No.	Bulls 0	Steers 0	Cows 2	Heifers 4	Calves 4	All Cattle 10	Sheep 0	Pigs 21
Per- centage	0.0	0.0	40	11.1	7.01	8.8	0.0	5.4

Approximate weight of diseased or unsound meat surrendered and destroyed by arrangement with Owners, viz. :—

	No.	tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Carcases of Beef	4	0	6	2	4
Carcases of Pork	4	0	2	1	14
Carcases of Mutton	4	0	0	3	19
Part Carcases of Beef	8	0	1	3	16
Part Carcases of Pork	12	0	1	1	9
Offals—Cattle		0	1	2	12
„ Pigs		0	1	2	26
Total		0	16	1	16

TABLE VI.

The following Table shows the number of animals killed and meat condemned since 1931.

ANIMALS KILLED.					MEAT CONDEMNED.										Total Weight in lbs.	
Year					Carcasses			Parts of			Sheep and Offal	Offal				
	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Cattle	Pigs		Cattle	Pigs							
						No.	lbs.		No.	lbs.		No.	lbs.			
1931	222	129	3330	945	3	916	6	553	5	295	9	99	202	561	108	2734
1932	157	132	3572	824	1	500	9	918	0	0	14	107	36	660	87	2308
1933	174	106	3472	715	4	2200	2	90	1	15	15	112	40	426	115	2998
1934	202	155	4223	720	....	....	1	35	3	478	....	....	120	396	240	1269
1935	126	127	2460	694	1	265	2	150	3	240	17	122	168	170	43	1158
1936	120	111	2043	781	3	1710	11	736	6	240	15	87	45	144	198	3160
1937	65	81	1609	554	2	1150	4	185	2	240	5	40	36	275	19	1945
1938	56	57	1484	388	4	732	4	266	8	212	12	149	103	180	194	1836

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

During the year there were 53 cases of Scarlet Fever, 35 of which were removed to hospital. 75 cases of Diphtheria were notified, and 56 were removed to the Isolation Hospital; of the remaining 19 cases 13 were notified from the Llandough Hospital and 6 cases were treated at home as "carriers."

VACCINATION.

The number of children vaccinated by your Medical Officer of Health as Public Vaccinator, was 41, and 3 re-vaccinations. There were 124 exemptions obtained by parents under the conscientious objection clauses.

DISINFECTION.

There were 100 patients removed to Hospital; 35 rooms were disinfected after infectious disease, and 33 bags of bedding and clothing were treated in the Steam Disinfector.

TABLE VII.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING 1938.

DISEASES.	All Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Cases admitted to hospital	Notified by Lan- dough Hos.	Cases treated at Home
Small Pox....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	13	6
Diphtheria	84	...	4	9	2	18	28	15	2	4	2	...	...	65	13	6
Scarlet Fever	52	...	1	5	4	6	13	14	3	3	2	1	...	35	5	12
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia	140	20	19	10	6	5	16	5	4	19	16	18	2	...	136	4
Erysipelas....	11	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	4	2	...	7	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Dysentery	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	1	2	...
Septicæmia ....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio myelitis	6	1	1	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Malaria	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Totals	308	27	26	27	12	29	57	36	11	30	23	25	5	101	172	35

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases Notified	.....	3
Cases treated at Home	.....	3
" " in Hospital	...	0
Vision Unimpaired	.....	3
Vision Impaired	.....	0
Total Blindness	.....	0
Deaths	.....	0

**TABLE VIII.
TUBERCULOSIS.**

NEW CASES.					DEATHS.			
Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	....	....	1	....	....	....	....	....
1—5	....	....	1	....	....	....	....	....
5—10	....	....	2	2	....	....	....	....
10—15	....	....	1	1	....	....	....	....
15—20	2	1	....	2	1	2	....	....
20—25	....	4	1	....	....	1	....	....
25—35	2	1	....	....	3	4	1	....
35—45	....	2	....	1	1	2	....	....
45—55	....	....	....	....	4	....	....	....
55—65	1	....	....	....	1	....	....	....
65 and upwards	....	1	....	....	....	1	....	....
Totals	5	9	6	6	10	10	1	....
	14		12		20		1	

Of the 21 deaths from tuberculosis, no primary notification was received in respect of 3 cases. No action was taken.

The Tuberculosis Physician, Dr. Gilchrist, has kindly compiled the following Table in connection with the treatment of Tuberculosis during the year 1938 :—

Number of New Cases seen	....	....	....	....	....	57
Number found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tubercle	....	....	....	....	....	13
Number found to be suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tubercle	....	....	....	....	....	6
Number with no evidence of Tubercle	....	....	....	....	....	34
Number under observation	....	....	....	....	....	4

ADMISSIONS TO TREATMENT.

	PULMONARY.							NON-PULMONARY.						
	1-5 years		5-15 years		15 and over		All ages	1-5 years		5-15 years		15 and over		All ages
	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	M	F	
Institutional	2	5	7	14	....	....	....	....	1	....	1
Domicilliary	1	....	1
Dispensary	1	3	....	4	....	....	....	....	1	3	4
Totals	3	8	7	18	....	....	....	....	3	3	6

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No person suffering from Tuberculosis was found to be engaged in the production of milk.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SEC. 62. AND P.H.A., 1936, SEC. 172.

No action was deemed necessary to apply for an Order to remove to Hospital any person suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR, 1938.

1.—Inspections of Factories, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	In- spections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories with Mechanical Power	46	6	Nil.
Factories without Mechanical Power	49	27	Nil.
Other Premises under the Act (including Works of Building and Engineering Construction but not including Outworkers' Premises)	2	2	Nil.
Total	97	35	Nil.

Particulars	Number of Defects			No. of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	11	11	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	2	2	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	6	6	—	—
Not Separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	17	17	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)				
Total	36	36	—	—







